

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1-10, 14-19, 21-25, 29-39, 43-53 and 57 are pending, in which claims 14, 29 and 57 are currently amended. The claim amendment merely corrects informalities. No new matter is introduced. Thus, these changes are not believed to raise new issues requiring further consideration and/or search, and it is therefore respectfully requested that the present amendment be entered under 37 C.F.R. §1.116.

The Office Action mailed Dec. 5, 2006 rejected claims 1-19, 21-25, 29-39, 43-53 and 57 as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on *Kloth* (US 6,598,034) in view of *Schroeder et al.* (US 6,327,626) and in further view of *Baras et al.* ("Fast Asymmetric Internet Over Wireless Satellite-Terrestrial Networks," November 3, 1997).

Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding rejections on the merits, as the newly applied reference of *Kloth et al.* fails to remedy the deficiencies of the secondary references. The proposed combination does not satisfy the claimed invention. In view of the lengthy prosecution, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the Applicants before a further Office Action is submitted if the present Response is deemed not to place the application in condition for allowance.

For example, claim 1 recites "receiving one or more spoofing parameters and **a spoofing selection parameter for specifying a rule for applying the spoofing parameters**, wherein the **spoofing parameters include information for specifying whether spoofing is enabled** for a selected one of the connections and **priority information specifying priority treatment of the selected connection.**"

The Examiner asserts, on page 3 of the Office Action, that *Kloth* teaches a "spoofing apparatus." Applicants respectfully disagree, as study of *Kloth* reveals that the Examiner appears to simply draw such a conclusion because although the *Kloth* routing engine can conceivably be modified to perform spoofing, there is no factual basis within *Kloth* to construe that the routing engine does so. In particular, the reference makes no use of the terms "spoof" or "spoofing." Furthermore, there is no disclosure of this capability. At best understood, the Examiner merely relies on *Kloth* for the general disclosure of the use of rules for routing. *Kloth* explains, col. 2: 38-42, the drawbacks of convention routing, and identifies that "what is needed in the field is a router-based switching system that is processor-based and provides a fully

flexible state machine for routing data packets. The configuration should utilize a set of rules for routing the various packets within an IP stream according to patterns along any point within the IP stream.” In turn, *Kloth* describes, within col. 2: 58- 63, the following (Emphasis Added):

To achieve the foregoing, and in accordance with the purpose of the present invention, an apparatus and related method are disclosed that will **process an IP traffic flow, and perform actions on the data packets**. The data packets are processed according to a set of rules that are compiled and applied on a real-time, or wirespeed basis.

The above passage fails to mention anything about spoofing, and is consistent with the Examiner's acknowledgement that the “combination of *Kloth* in view of *Schroeder et al.* does not specifically teach the embodiment as claimed, i.e., a spoofing apparatus with spoofing parameters.”

The Examiner contradicts this acknowledgement by asserting that the features of “wherein the **spoofing parameters include information for specifying whether spoofing is enabled** for a selected one of the connections and **priority information specifying priority treatment of the selected connection**” are disclosed by *Schroeder et al.* The Examiner cites col. 2: 6-16 and 52-62. These passages are provided as follows:

The mechanism described allows a host using the TCP transport protocol to choose the larger of two unequal MSS values received during MSS negotiation when establishing a connection between two stations. As a result, the determination mechanism of the local MSS value used by the TCP/IP protocol stack is changed to be the larger of the two unequal offered MSS values, instead of being the smaller of the two. The host TCP/IP protocol stack is not modified. Thus, a transmitting host can send TCP segments that are sized to the sending station MTU without modifying the TCP protocol stack on every station.

The mechanism described herein allows a host using the TCP transport protocol to choose the larger of two unequal MSS values received during MSS negotiation when establishing a connection between two stations. As a result, the determination mechanism of the local MSS value used by the TCP/IP protocol stack is changed to be the larger of two unequal offered MSS values, instead of being the smaller of the two, without modifying the host TCP/IP protocol stack. Accordingly, a transmitting host can send TCP segments that are sized to the sending station MTU without modifying the TCP protocol stack on every station.

From these passages, it is not understood how the claimed features are taught. The description involves the selection of one of two MSS values in the context of the TCP transport protocol.

Without help from neither *Kloth* nor *Schroeder et al.*, the Examiner resorts to the broad declaration that “Baras et al. teaches the use of a spoofing apparatus with spoofing parameters.” The Examiner points to the TCP Spoof Kernel on page 375 of *Baras et al.* This reference discloses that “TCP Spoof Kernel: isolates the hybrid TCP/IP network from conventional TCP/IP network and handles

the TCP performance enhancement....The TCP Spoofing operates as a Finite State Machine which manages TCP connections between hybrid hosts and Internet hosts." Such generalized description of TCP spoofing falls short of "receiving one or more spoofing parameters and **a spoofing selection parameter for specifying a rule for applying the spoofing parameters**, wherein the **spoofing parameters include information for specifying whether spoofing is enabled** for a selected one of the connections and **priority information specifying priority treatment of the selected connection.**"

Therefore, none the references taken alone, or in combination, teaches or suggests these features.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the obviousness rejection is improper and the indication that the pending claims 1-10, 14-19, 21-25, 29-39, 43-53 and 57 are allowable.

Therefore, the present application, as amended, overcomes the rejection of record and is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (301) 601-7252 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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